more especially in the light of morphogenesis of the mushroom and some other simpler plants. He postulates a specific organic formative principle or factor, which formerly he called ' Morphe ' and now * the field *. (The site of the developmental process is a f< field " whose limits do not, in general, coincide with those of the embryo, but extend beyond it. What is presented to us as a living system consists accordingly of the visible egg or embryo and a field. To the field is ascribed sometimes a complicated anisotropy, but the question of its origin and localization is left open. . . . This field is not a physical field of force, but rather a " stimulus field ". . . . What is essential in the action of the field is that it is not an " external field (e. g«, produced by the earth), but one belonging to the germ itself. We may assume that the field factor signifies an impulse proceeding from the depths of the plant to the flower-bud and influencing cell-division and cell-growth." In the case of the mush-room " the field represents ", so to speak, a barrier for the growth of the points " of the otherwise irregularly inter-penetrating growth of the hyphae'V The field, then, is [4] a principle *anchored in the organization,* though perhaps extending beyond the spatial limits of the germ'; and it * exerts a pondero-motor effect on certain material elements in its sphere of action'. In the case of the mushroom the field provides [c] a kind of " dynamic barrier" by means of which the configuration of the hat-shape is formed'.

As we have seen, Bertalanffy sums up on Gurwitsch's field-theory by saying: * When we say that this or that embryonic process is produced by " forces " or " a field " the causes of the process are not thereby " explained "— as some biologists seem to believe—but only named.'